

Western Regional News

Experiments with new ideas prove absorbing pasttime

When you watch the Rose Parade next January, be sure to watch for the lady who won the theme contest: Mrs. Allen Potts. Her husband heads the real estate department for the Western Regional Office. She offered the winning title suggestion, "On the Road to Happiness."

K mart 3070 staffers in Antioch, CA are emulating the tradition of English pubs by instituting a dart throwing game in their store. There is no beer, but relaxation has proved to be the outcome. The teams that have formed say the sport is a healthy kind of aggression and creates a friendly alliance rather than bitter competition.

Reporter Barbara Merchant says the dart board is posted for anyone to take a throw at, and that includes the aggravated customers who mistakenly return Sears merchandise or people who have merely had a bad day. That bullseye, Barbara

claims, can look like anything you want it to!

Manager George Scaggs from K mart 4371, Santa Maria, CA, welcomed special visitors from Australia to his store recently. Lyndie Shannon, secretary to Managing Director Bevan P. Bradbury of K mart Australia Ltd., accompanied her mom and a group of travelers to California last month and stopped in to see the gang in Santa Maria. Mr. Scaggs took the two visitors to dinner and introduced them to his staff.

You may all remember Charlie, the talking Myna bird from Kresge 712 who enchanted all the customers and drew much concern over his illness last year. Regrettably, the Vallejo, CA store informs us that Charlie has passed away. He made a striking impression on the city: there was an obituary note in a local newspaper column stating he would be missed.

Kim Albritton, stockboy at K mart 4025 in Tyler, TX and a junior at Chapel Hill High School, won first place in the accounting division of the Texas State Office Education Association contest. He is enrolled in the Vocational Office Education lab program at his school and plans to enroll in a similar one for seniors next year. Three hours of daily on-the-job training will be offered.

Gordon's green thumb beautifies Phoenix

Phoenix, AZ's K mart 3014 has always been proud of Gordon Krueger's performance as garden shop manager. The appreciation was shared by a special customer recently, who insisted that Gordon's name be placed on an achievement award he was presented by the mayor of his city.

Lewis Burch, a real estate broker with property near the 16th St. K mart location, was the recipient of the Phoenix Environmental Quality Commission's award for successful efforts to beautify the area. Mr. Burch bought all of the flowers and plants he used from Gordon, and stated, "While the quality and price of the merchandise has always been good, the greater value and aid to me has been the quality and knowledge of the manager, Gordon Krueger. He knows a lot, shares what he knows and has always been helpful in many ways. In other words, a share of that award should be his as well."

The mayor agreed with Mr. Burch's reasoning, and obligingly added Gordon's name to the certificate.



Renate Hoeffleit, c, shows her delight at winning the K mart Apparel's Employee of the Month award. The ladies' wear staffer from K mart 4482, Soquel, CA, is joined by District Manager Luther Jones, I, and Merrill Windsor, her supervisor.



Grandma Theresa with her two new "twins."

Stork brings grandma a double surprise

Theresa Richmond took her first day off work in three years from K mart 4106 in Medford, OR last month. When two of her married daughters had baby girls on the same day, six hours apart, she was wild with joy.

The "double birth" was the closest Theresa has come to having her wish for twins fulfilled. "I call it having them the easy way," she gleefully informed a Medford reporter.

Rachelle Lee Beddingfield was born to Theresa's daughter Terry Lee, and Tricha Ann Clement was born to daughter Patricia Lucille. Both babies were delivered at Rogue Valley Memorial Hospital.

Theresa's brothers are twins, and her husband's mother and sister had twins in their families. But the new grandmother isn't complaining. Without knowing it, Rachelle and Tricha made her very happy.

Wayne fulfills family legacy

Eight years ago, Kenneth Wayne Potts' grandfather gave the youth an alto-saxophone as a legacy. He himself had been a professional musician, and hoped Ken would find the same fulfillment in a musical career.

The youth, now 17 years old, has more than satisfied that earlier wish. For the second year in a row, Ken has been selected to study with the renowned Stan Kenton Jazz Clinic which will meet in Costa Mesa, CA this summer. He will receive instruction in jazz concepts and theory as well as rehearsal techniques. Importantly, Ken will be encouraged to improvise and record with the Kenton Band and other internationally acclaimed jazz artists.

His co-workers at Costa Mesa store 4047 haven't recovered from the excitement of Ken's good fortune, but he's matter of fact about his goals, preparing for the learning experience with steady practicing. Ever since he took a jazz composition course his sophomore year in high school, he has been convinced jazz arrangement and composition was his field.

The advanced study group of which Ken will be a part includes educators from Connecticut to California and from North Carolina to Arizona, all respected professors of music. Two of them are faculty members of North Texas State University in Denton, TX, the musically-oriented college Ken would like to attend after graduation from Estancia High School.



When Evelyn Bankson, c, celebrated her 25th anniversary with K mart 4239, Los Angeles, CA, 84 co-workers turned up at the breakfast held in her honor. On Evelyn's left is Manager Richard Brunner; on her right is Merchandise Manager Melvin Glogow.

It tastes terrific!



District Manager Robert Shew got treated to his favorite breakfast, giant size biscuits and a bowl of gravy—when he paid a visit to K mart 3369 in Rancho Cordova, CA last month.